

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION DAY



To:

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From: Mark Roddy - Seattle University

Re: Environmental Education Day at Echo Lake Elementary

Date: **March 17, 2016**

Environmental Education Day at Echo Lake Elementary is coming!

On **Thursday, March 17th** Seattle University's pre-service teachers will come to your classrooms and teach a full day centered on the environment. This is a great opportunity for our students, currently enrolled in their elementary methods course, to get their feet really wet working with you and your students and implementing some of the ideas we have been considering in our methods course.

Here is how it works: a group of **3-5** preservice teachers will contact you via e-mail sometime between **March 1 and March 4**. They will try to find a time before, during or after school to meet with you in person on **Monday March 7th or Tuesday, March 8th**. The purpose of this visit will be to talk about how this day might fit into your curriculum. This is an opportunity for you to brainstorm, to tell them about your class, and to set some guidelines. I hope that you will be able to let them know, in a general sense, what would fit into your curriculum, how your classroom operates, who your students are, special needs, abilities, etc.

You and the students will **schedule at least two additional meetings** in order to share ideas and to check their progress in planning and preparing for **March 17th**. The SU students are scheduled to be at Echo Lake on **Monday, 3/7, Tuesday, 3/8, Tuesday, 3/15, and, of course, Thursday, March 17th**. We want to be sure that a solid and mutually agreed upon plan is ready well before that plan has to be put into action. If I were you, I would ask the pre-service teachers to come to one of your meetings with a draft of a written plan for the day. I will make sure they have a draft of this by Friday, March 13. The schedule is Very tight this quarter so you may have to meet electronically. Please plan to spend some time observing the pre-service students on EE Day, **March 17th** and be ready to give them the benefit of your expertise during breaks and at the end of the day.

Thank you *very* much for being willing to give up a day for our pre-service teachers. This is one of the many reasons why being here at Echo Lake is so productive for us in the Master in Teaching program. Our students get a great deal of practical experience and truly valuable preparation to teach because of your willingness to support and guide efforts like this one. If you have questions or suggestions, please stop by and see me, send me a note (mroddy@seattleu.edu) or give me a call at (206)296-5765.

Mark Roddy
Seattle University